

# Commodore Users Group of Saskatchewan

November, 1990

Vol 5. No. 7

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**Modem Wars**

**FAST BREAK**

**LAST NINJA**

**PEGASUS**

**TAKE DOWN**

**HACKER**

**ZOOH**

**MANIAX**

**GEOS**

**ONE ON ONE**

**MOON MIST**

**SPACE INVADERS**



# Obligatory Stuff

## CUGS MAILING ADDRESS:

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143 Birchwood Cres.  
Regina, Sask.  
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President	Barry Bircher	359 1925
Vice President	Richard Maze	586 3291
Treasurer	Real Charron	545 7601
Editor	Jarrett Currie	757 2391
Asst Editor	Shaun Hase	584 3371
Librarian	Keith Kasha	359 1748
Asst Librarian	Steve Bagues	949 1370
Members at Large	Ken Danylczuk	545 0644
	Harry Chong	789 2142
	Earl Brown	543 2068
	Gord Williams	543 0373
	Joe Gomes	789 8174

If you have any questions about CUGS please feel free to contact any of the above executive members.

CUGS currently has several reserved areas on:

**Excalibur BBS** (306) 949-8605  
Sysop: Yves Desjardins

The **Monitor** is published monthly by the COMMODORE USERS' GROUP OF SASKATCHEWAN (CUGS), Regina, Sask., Canada. CUGS meetings are held at 7 pm the **FIRST WEDNESDAY** of every month (unless otherwise noted) in the North-West Leisure Centre, corner of Rochdale Boulevard and Arnason Street. The next meeting will be held: **December 5, 1990**

Anyone interested in computing, especially on the C64, 128 or 64C, is welcome to attend any meeting. Out of town members are also welcome, but may be charged a small (\$5.00) mailing fee for newsletters. Members are encouraged to submit public domain software for inclusion in the CUGS DISK LIBRARY. These programs are made available to members. Any member is entitled to purchase DISKS from our public domain library for a nominal fee. Programs are 'freeware', from computer magazines, or the public domain. Individual members are responsible for deleting any program that he/she is not entitled to by law (you must be the owner of the magazine in which a particular program was printed). To the best of our knowledge, all such programs are identified in their listings. Please let us know if you find otherwise. Contact our club Librarian, Keith Kasha.

CUGS is a non-profit organization comprised of C64, 64C, C128, and 1200 users interested in sharing ideas, programs, knowledge, problems and solutions with each other. The more members participate, the better the variety of benefits. Membership dues are pro-rated, based on a January to December year.

## EDITORIAL

by Jarrett Currie

Each November, CUGS members are given the opportunity to run for executive positions, and to vote for those people who they feel will help keep our computer club alive, and interesting. But, year after year, it seems our executive members see very few new faces at the executive meetings. And this is very unfortunate, because if we can't get people to organize the club, then there will be no CUGS.

None of the executive positions require a large commitment in time. Some of the positions take only a few hours a month, and for some, not even that. What's needed for some positions are simply people who have ideas about how to keep the club thriving. Each of the executive positions are open for nominations each year, and if you are thinking about running for one of these positions, please feel free to do so.

Being an executive member is probably the best way to get the most out of CUGS. You will be kept current of what CUGS is planning to do, and because each of the executive meetings have only a handful of people, often you will hear Commodore news that isn't presented at the monthly meetings. Some of our most experienced computer users offer their time to the executive, and as a result, executive meetings are a sure way of getting an answer for a particularly tricky question.

But, mostly, you will be able to help decide the direction that CUGS should be heading. With the doom and gloom often predicted about the fate of our computers, it is especially important that the executive be made up of people concerned about its longevity. If you have some ideas about how to continue to make CUGS interesting and informative for the rest of the members, the executive is the best way to get that idea across.

Also in November, CUGS traditionally presents the Software Preview Night - my personal favorite. Like many of you, I am a software-aholic. I love using, buying and viewing software, and my software fetish is satisfied annually by attending November's meeting, plugging in a disk or two, and viewing the new (and semi-new) software borrowed from Software Supermarket and generous members. This special night serves two functions: to alert you to the software duds - software that should have never made it to market- and to pique your interest in some of the more interesting, new software.

Now, for some bad news. The contributions to the **Monitor** has decreased somewhat over the past while, and I cannot help but wonder why. I hope that everyone

who reads the **Monitor** gets something from it, but if not, I would certainly be open to suggestions on how to improve it. If you would like to contribute to the **Monitor**, but aren't sure what would be appropriate, let me give you some suggestions:

- ✓ Write a review of an exciting public domain program you found on one of the bulletin boards. Remember that not our members telecommunicate, and would enjoy hearing about some of the great software available.
- ✓ Write an article about some commercial software you purchased and have used.
- ✓ If you are a power user, and have found some useful tips or tricks, submit them to the **Monitor**. You don't have to write a feature-length article about a small trick, just write a sentence or two, and I'll add it to the newsletter.
- ✓ Lastly, if you enjoy computer pictures, submit those too, and I may include them on the front page of the **Monitor**. I would especially enjoy receiving graphics that are timely; those that give a holiday flavor. If you have created any, here's a chance to show them off.

Please note that Yves Desjardins has generously offered an area on his bulletin board, Excalibur, for the exclusive use of CUGS. You may freely upload your CUGS articles and graphics there.

The second annual **Monitor** contest is quickly approaching the drawing. Each CUGS member who has submitted an article for the **Monitor** will be entitled to 1 entry for each article submitted.

There is only 1 more issue of the **Monitor** before the drawing, so if your name isn't on the following list, now is the time to submit an article, and get a chance to win!

Barry Bircher	7
Shaun Hase	5
Richard Maze	4
Jarrett Currie	2
Ken Danylczuk	2
Earl Brown	1
Yves Desjardins	1

## *President's Message*

Hello and welcome to another CUGS meeting. This month is our annual Executive officers election night. If there are any members who feel that they can contribute to the club then please do so and do it NOW. The club needs new faces and new ideas. Seriously think about this. The club needs a backbone of people to shoulder the fun of running the every day activities of the club. Without them, the club can falter and peter out like a computer without a program. The first part of the meeting will deal with nominating people who wish to fill in others' shoes. Afterwards, an election, by a show of hands, will finalize the elections for another year.

Afterwards, we have arranged to have our annual Software Preview Night to take place. It is this time of the year, just before Christmas, that you can try out a piece of software you read about. Now is the time to dig in, check it out, run the program, get a feel of it, and wonder if it is worth it or not. Either way, you have a chance to check out some new software to feed your C=64/128. Hope you like it.

Earlier last week I got a chance to see Mr. Duncan of The Duncans computer warehouse on Osler street. He and I talked about his business and our club and have come to a mutual understanding. The Duncans computer warehouse has offered us a section of their valuable wall and floor space to plaster a poster, pictures and such to get the club a little exposure. One of the main topics at the next executive meeting will be to decide who, how and when this poster and display will be set up.



# EXPERTS LIST

The people below have agreed to let their names be listed as "experts" in some aspect of C64/128 computing. If you've a question, these brave volunteers can likely answer it, or help you find an answer that works. If you have a skill at some computing process, consider listing yourself with our other volunteers.

## Wordprocessing

Paperclip III	Shaun Hase	584 3371
Paperclip (to version E)	Richard Maze	586 3291
Paperclip (to version E)	Jarrett Currie	757 2391
Paperclip (any version)	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644
Pocket Writer 2 & 3	Yves Desjardins	949 8526

## Spreadsheets

Multiplan	Richard Maze	586 3291
Pocket Planner	Barry Bircher	359 1925
Better Working SS	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644

## Databases

Pocket Filer	Barry Bircher	359 1925
Oracle (Consultant)	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644

## Communication

Pro128Term	Barry Bircher	359 1925
Pro128Term	Jarrett Currie	757 2391
Library files	Barry Bircher	359 1925

## Music/Sound

(Most)	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644
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## Languages

Forth	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644
Pascal	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644
ML (machine language)	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644
ML (machine language)	Barry Bircher	359 1925
BASIC (general)	Richard Maze	586 3291
BASIC 7.0 (graphics)	Shaun Hase	584 3371
BASIC (2.0-7.0, files)	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644

## Graphics

Print Shop/Master	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644
Koala Painter/Printer	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644

## Hardware

Disk Drive Maintenance	Ken Danylczuk	545 8644
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## GEOS

GEOS 64	Jarrett Currie	757 2391
GEOS 128	Barry Bircher	359 1925

## General

Super Snapshot (3, 4, 5)	Yves Desjardins	949 8526
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# Scratch 'n' Save

128 Library by Earl Brown

It appears that election night (tonight) will be basically the same as most other years. In the last **Monitor**, I encouraged every one of you into becoming an executive member in CUGS. PLEASE CALL! I asked. WELL! no one called. I had to get on the blower myself, and make the necessary calls to ensure that we had at least one member running in each elective category. **There are no new names** as listed below that are running for election this year. At this writing, the following have approved their participation to run for election on the 1991 CUGS Board of Executives:

For President:	Barry Bircher
For Vice-President:	Gord Williams
For Sec-Treasurer:	Real Charron
For Editor:	Jarrett Currie
For Asst. Editor:	Shaun Hase
For 64 Librarian:	Keith Kasha
For 128 Librarian:	Earl Brown
For Asst. Librarian:	Steve Bagues
Members at Large:	Ken Danylczuk Harry Chong

We need at least one more nomination (preferably more) to be added to this list. Anybody?

For quite some time now I have been noticing two bad thing happening to my computer system. If I keep my C128 running for more than two hours, my 1670 Modem would give up on me. About three weeks ago, it gave up entirely. Could it be one of the chips has gone caput? Also, from time to time my 1902A monitor will blank out. If I turn the monitor off for an hour or two, it will work again for varying degrees of time, then again go out. I'm waiting for the monitor to get worse, than I intend to remove its cover, and take a look at it. Barry said he had a similar problem with his 1902A, and resoldering a flyback connection cured it for him. Is there anybody out there with other ideas? My modem, however, is a different matter. I'll need someone to look after that for me entirely. Does anybody know anyone who can service them in the city? I only paid \$40 for it at Canadian Tire when they had it on sale over a year ago so I'm hoping I don't have to pay any more than that to get it fixed. I'm desperate.

This month I have added to our 128 Library a disk full of utilities (UTILITIES 6 \*UF). Most of the programs work in 80 columns. There is a 1571 directory manipulator (DM80); a 1571 disk logger (DISK REPORTER); a fifty line version (SPEED 80X50/128) of Speedscript 128; Run

Magazines version of Dos Shell (RUN SHELL); a partitioning program for the 1581 (PARTNR 1581/128); a two drive disk file copier (RUN COPY/128) and many, many more. Speed 80X50/128 requires a very sharp monitor to justify its use. As an example, my 1902A is just not good enough. Run Shell is very similar to the Dos Shell program. Its big advantage over Dos Shell is employment of your expansion card as an internal drive.

I had to write this article rather quickly as my screen went blank at least four times and the time to actually write was limited. It still took me all day to get this article completed.

## The GEOS Desktop

by Barry Bircher

Last month's article discussed a little bit about the GEOS desktop. Here is the third part of a continuing discussion on the GEOS desktop.

The GEOS desktop is a metaphor of a real desktop. The monitor screen of the desktop looks like.... you guessed it, a real desktop. As mentioned before, you will find things on this desk that you would normally find and use on a real-world desktop.

Getting down to the little details, on this desk you have a desk pad of several large sheets of paper. On these sheets will be icons all lined up with 8 pictures to a page. You can look under the page to see what is under it. You do this by pointing to a "dog-eared" corner (lower left) page and press the fire button. It looks as if you were going to physically lift up the page on the deskpad and look under it. What you see are the next 8 files on a disk that's in your drive.

By looking at the icons, you can tell what program produced the files and where they may go. It's on this desk that everything in the GEOS package comes together. After awhile, all the strange looking icons all seem to make sense and you instinctively know what and how they relate to other programs.

On the upper left hand side, you will see several boxes with text in them. Each of these boxes has a specific purpose and most will bring up more boxes to select from. By pointing and clicking on these boxes we can do most of the normal everyday disk housekeeping. For example, we can format a disk, copy a disk, copy a file, rename a file, rename a disk, erase a disk and so on. We also can select various desk accessories from one box. This means we can run another desk type program from within the desktop. For example we can run a calculator, save a photo album, save a text album, set an alarm clock, select another printer driver, select another input drive (like a mouse) and run the Preference Manager, to name but a few.

Most of the accessories are self explanatory and work as you would expect:

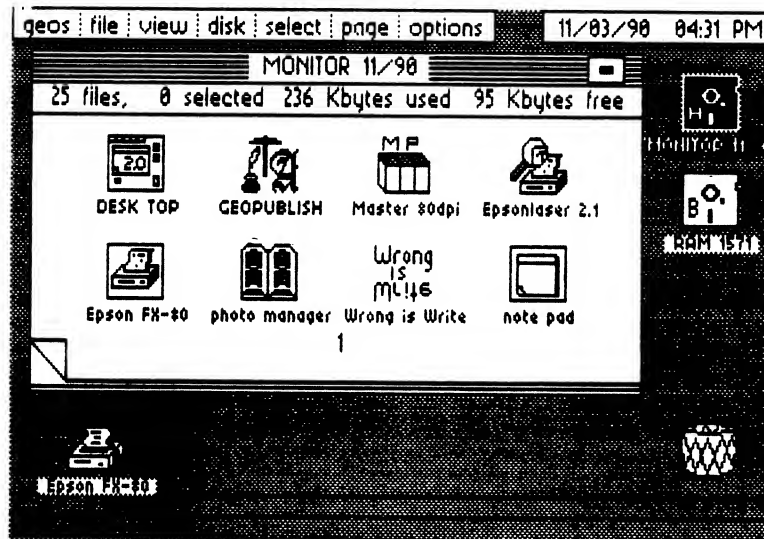
- \* The Photo Manager is a collection or scrap book of drawings you have made and is away of collecting them all together and viewing them as you want.

- \* The text manager is another scrap book for collecting your text documents. This is like a scrap book.

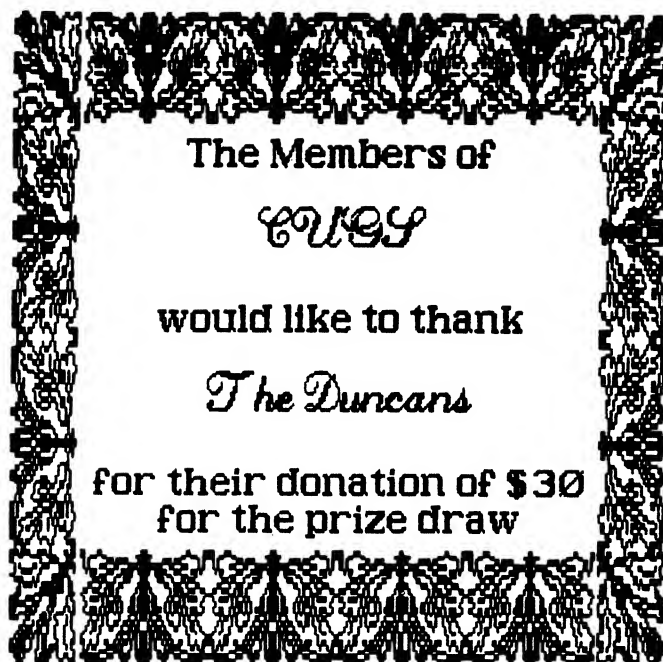
- \* The Preference Manager is an accessory to set the screen, character, and border colors, set the clock and date and modify the pointer to suit yourself.

One nice feature in the newer 2.0 version is the on screen clock which allows you to set the clock from within the desktop. In earlier versions, you had to call up the preference manager and set the time and date. "So what?" you ask. Well, in a disk-intensive operating system such as GEOS, you

may find yourself squeezed for space (if all you have is one drive) so usually the Preference Manager gets scraped and therefore you cannot set the time readily. The operating system automatically time and date stamps each file as it is saved or updated. So it is very helpful to have a properly set and running clock.







continued...

With version 2.00 of the system, you do not need the program taking up valuable disk space to set the time. Just point and click on the on screen clock and then type in the time and date (preferably upon boot up). You do not need to have the Preference Manager on disk unless you need to change the speed or change the color of text, border or background.

Several limitations have been found when it comes to the 80 column mode (128 only) in comparison to the 40 column version. In the Preference Manager, the pointer is not modifiable in shape and is able to have only the same color as the character color presently selected because only two colors are allowed at one time. The border can only be toggled between the character color and the background color. In GeoPaint 128 (80 cols.), again, only two colors are allowed so it is very useful to draw out your drawing in full width view of 80 columns then switch to 40 columns to color it.

If, for whatever reason, you remove the work disk that you are working on and put in another one without first telling the operating system, the first time the program tries to access the disk, you are greeted with a message to put back in the disk even though you intend to save to other disk drive. This message will stick to the screen like suckers to blankets. No amount of waiting, keypounding, crying, kicking, screaming, swearing, cursing, or throwing your silicon chips at the wall will make the message go away. You have no choice but put the other diskette back into the drive. This is neither bad nor good, just good disk management (GEOS cannot read your mind).

You must reinsert that disk. To switch disks, you must log out the last disk (by clicking on the close disk icon) and insert the disk you want the file saved to and log that disk in, again just by clicking on the icon representing the drive the disk is in.

On the lower left hand side (right hand side by the garbage can on versions 1.3 and lower) you will see an icon that looks like a printer. Any file that is printable can be selected and dumped here to produce a hardcopy. On the upper right hand side you will see an icon that looks like a 5 1/4" diskette. This icon represents your disk in the drive. GEOS versions 1.3 and lower are able to access 2 drives (if you have more than one), and therefore you will see 2 of these icons, one labeled 'A' and the one below it marked 'B'. On version 2.0, you are able to access 3 drives. You do have to shuffle them around though, because only 2 drives can be active at the same time.

To summarize, the desktop is an elaborate disk management tool and is the default center of operations for all GEOS applications.

Next month I will continue with my discussion on a GEOS application program called GeoWrite.

## NEW CLUB DISKS

### 128 UTILITIES 6 \$UE

dm80	alias
treki prints.lnx	buttons/128
disk reporter	fst 40/128/64
rgb kit/128/64	nick/128
rgb demo/128/64	screen store/128
demo 80 col/128	udc monitor+/128
display boot/128	monitor+ rel/128
speed 80x50/128	printgen 80
run shell	afco/128
mousetrap 128	afco demo/128
who's out there	dater 128
mix/128	dir 1/128
run's new chksm	dir 2/128
ramdos.bas/64/128	run copy/128
dir printr 3-col	editor swap/128
partnr 1581/128	

# BBS List for Regina, Saskatchewan, Area Code 306, For September 1990.

Name of System	Phone #	Baud	BBS Program Used	Sysop's Name	Code
=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Aladin's Cave	789-9800	1200	Wildcat v1.03		I
Bar Room BBS	584-7145	2400	DeusCBCS v0.2n	Rod Snaith	I
BiblioTECH	757-9248	2400	RemoteAccess v0.04	Ron Trenker	I
Billionaire's Boys Club	586-9571	2400	Wildcat v2.03B	Jason Howorko	I,G,S
Bit Bucket	352-3236	2400	Fido v12h	Bart Ritchie	I,E
Datapac 300	565-0111	300	Westbridge	none	S
Datapac 1200	565-0181	1200	Westbridge	none	S
Datapac 2400	565-6000	2400	Westbridge	none	S
Datareach	1-995-3333	2400	SaskTel	none	S,3
Dend Poet's Society	522-4834	2400	Remote Access v?	James Hendy	I
Diddly Squat	586-4136	1200	Remote Access v?		I
Double Check	525-0807	2400	Paragon v2.07	Randy Coghill	Z,E
Double Q Access	584-2916	1200	Bruce 9000	Robert Patterson	I,G
Excalibur	949-8605	2400	EBBS Ver. 4.6	Yves Desjardins	C
Earne's Bathtub	586-3887	1200	EBBS v 4.5		C
Fernando's Retreat	585-0298	9600	Opus v1.12	Colin Campbell	I,G,E
FriNGE.	543-7935	2400	Minibaud v 5.0	John Alexander	A,*
Ganshirt-at-home	777-5370	1200	Fido v12h	Ken Ganshirt	I,G
Gif Heaven	545-6701	2400	RemoteAccess v0.04	Gabe Mahin	I,1
Girk Dently's Holistic	789-9909	2400	Fido v12s	Richard Wolbaum	I
Glass Box	584-5485	2400	RemoteAccess v0.04	David Roll	I
High Energy BBS	585-1917	2400	RemoteAccess v0.03	Neal Mouze	I,2
Lab, The	525-8620	2400	RemoteAccess v0.04	Yong Lim	I,G,E
Midnight Oil	545-7597	1200	CommLinkBBS v0.87	Jim McGowan	Z
Micro City I	584-0747	2400	MCBBS	Ron Ware	G
Micro City II	584-0748	2400	MCBBS	Ron Ware	G
Missing Link, The	522-4001	9600	GT Power 15.01	Stephen Crawford	G
Mission Impossible	569-9705	1200	Home Made	Kevin Hoffman	C,G
Mystical Realms	781-2430	2400	RemoteAccess v0.04	Darin Kulman	I
Polestar	586-1551	9600	RemoteAccess v0.04	Bryce Eckstein	I
Pool Hall, The	586-8490	2400	PC Board v15	Roger Linka	I,G
Pool Hall, The	586-0922	9600	PC Board v14		I
Ratt III	949-6105	1200	BBS Express	Larry Sutton	T
Regina FIDO	777-4493	9600	Fido v12.19	Ken Ganshirt	I,E
Shadowland	789-8989	14400	Home Made	Bob Hamilton	I,E
Speed Zone	757-5519	1200	Remote Access	John Carrizo	I
Star Traders Inc.	545-0259	2400	Opus v1.12	Robert Gunther	I,G
Tee Wun Kay	779-1237	2400	Opus v1.12	Garry Ehman	I
TTL Computer Concepts	522-3233	2400	Opus v1.13	Bjorn Meyer	I
Turbo BBS	949-8880	2400	Turbo BBS v1.5	Jim Nickel	I
U of R 2400	585-5216	2400	Deckserver Cluster	none	S,*
Unibase 1200	789-0709	1200	Unix	Leigh Calnek	S
Unibase 2400	789-0715	2400	Unix	Leigh Calnek	S

S-Commerical System    Z-Amiga  
 G-Games (on-line)    I-IBM    C-Commodore  
 T-Atari    A-Apple    E-Echomail    \*-7-E-1 settings  
 1-Limited Hours (02:00 - 18:00)    2-Irregular Hours  
 3-Datareach is local from every phone in Saskatchewan

**ALL BULLETIN BOARDS** run at 8,N,1 modem settings unless otherwise stated.